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South Viet Nam Pledaes Itself to Defeat the U.S. Aggressors and Their Henchmen

VIETNA

Sept. 23 1968 No 183

5th Year

to President HO CHI MINH - N.F.L. and P.L.A.F. Message - E.O. : 46 Tran Hung Dao Street, Ha - Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

Esteemed President.

Estemed President,

RESPONDING to the appral you made
on the occasion of July 20 (amiswerrary of the signing of the General
derements on Visit Nam — Ed.) and uption—one of solidarily and or sufficiently
arranged—the South Visit Nam armed
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the ietnamese people.

and inspiration to the 14 million South Vistnames people.

In the thick of the war and with abterion to the final victory of the people of the

Esteemed President

THE U.S. aggressors are losing heavily.
But, obdurate and cunning by nature, they
are still trying to cling to South Viet Nam
and to impose neo-colonialism on the South and to impose neo-colonialism on the South Vietnamese people, and are going on with

the intentification of their mer of aggression, using masses to hombs, their fad and notions using masses to hombs, their fad notions of their mer of a superior of the superior of their fad notions of their fad their fad notions of their fad thei

disposal still bigge victories. South Vist Amm bidges littel to You and the Northern compatriots to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen the trailors, to win complete victory, wrest back the whole power for the people, and attain independence, democracy, prace, neutrality and the utilimate peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

reunification of the Fatherland.
With your inspiring solicitude and
encouragement and the unolehearted assistance of the hit-and-hin comparitors of the
North and the sympathy and support of
friends all over the world, the South Victnamese people, under any circumstance,
however, the contract of the contract of the
hourse that glorious and great day.
We wish you good halth and long tife.

South Viet Nam, September 11, 1968 The Presidium of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. Central Committee The Command of the South Viet Nam P.L.A.F.

North Viet Nam

Up to September 19, 1968

3.171 /U.S. aircraft were downed



Ha Tinh province militiawomen with their guns at the ready against U.S. air pirates

South Viet Nam

HEAVY ENEMY LOSSES AT TAY NINH, LOC NINH, DUC LAP AND SOUTH OF DEMILITARIZED 70NF

- * A U.S. Mixed Battalion Wiped Out at Tra Phi Base, the 4th Time Overrun by P.L.A.F.
- * An Armoured Car Park and an Airfield at Ben Cui Assaulted on the Same Day.
- * 2,600 Enemy Troops Put out of Action from Sept.11 to 17, in Tay Ninh Sector.
- * 2 U.S. Battalions and 6 Companies Wiped Out from Sept. 11 to 14 at Loc Ninh.
- * Sar Pa Post near Duc Lap Stormed on Sept. 15.
- * 2,200 Enemy Troops Put out of Action North of Quang Tri from Sept. 1 to 16.
- * Two Generals, One American and Another of the Puppet Army, Killed and a Third One Wounded within Ten Days.

VIET NAM WAR IN THE EYE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

PHAM THANH VINH
Secretary of the Viet Nam Lawyers' Association

Editor's Note:

The Viet Nam—U.S. talks in Paris have been dragging on for more than four months because of the systematic and unjustified refusal of the U.S. unjustified rerusal of the U.S. to put an unconditional end to the bombings and all other acts of war against the D.R. V.N. Meanwhile, a world lawyers' conference for Viet

Nam was held in France Nam was held in France (Grenoble) to examine in the light of international law the major problems concerning the war in Viet Nam. We have asked Mr. Pham Thanh Vinh, Secretary of the Viet Nam Lawyers' Association, to elaborate on the gist of the Grenoble conclusions. It conclus should be recalled that the

signatories to the Grenoble documents have decided to meet again this fall. Thus the world's lawyers have proved quite active and vigilant in their support to the fight of the Vietnames people for the defence of their fundamental rights which are also those of all peoples in the world.

(Pages 4-5)

THE Extraordinary Conference of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidar-ity Organisation for Support to, and the Conference of the Conference of the Pool Solidarity with U.S. Imperialist Pool Solidarity with U.S. Imperialist Aggressors, which met in Cairo from September 7 to 9, 1968, approved at its closing session a political resolu-tion, an appeal and a program of action in support of Viet Nam.

The Political resolution reads:

"1. The conference thoroughly and fully supports the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for the defence of their fundamental national rights: independence, sover-eignty and territorial unity and integrity. The conference solemnly recognizes that this legitimate struggle is the inalienable right of the whole Vietnamese people to self-defence, and at the same time, an important contribution to the common cause of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the rest of the world fighting against impe-rialism, old and neo-colonialism headed by the U.S. imperialists and for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

"The conference warmly hails the "The conference warmly hails the great victories, especially those achieved since early Spring 1968 by the armed forces and people in both North and South Viet Nam. These victories strikingly point to the undauntedness and heroism of the Vietnamese people and constitute a shining example for various nations fighting for their liberation, against aggression and oppression by the imperialists and colonialists. The conference warmly hails the founding in South Viet Nam of the Alliance

"2. The conference fully supports the just position of the Vietnamese people as stipulated in the four points

A. A. P. S. O. Confab Passes "Support Viet Nam" Political Resolution

of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation. This position is consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Iundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam and with the practical situation in Viet Nam. It constitutes the basis for a most correct political solution for the Viet Nam problem.

"The conference warmly hails the just position and serious attitude of the representative of the D.R.V.N. government at the official conversa-

"3. The conference sternly con-demns the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam, the U.S. war of destruction in North Viet Nam and U.S. heinous crimes in the whole U.S. neinous crimes in the whole country. It strongly condemns the obdurate attitude and perfidious ma-nocuvres of the U.S. government's representative at the Paris official conversations.

"4. The U.S. government must put an end to its war of aggression in Viet Nam, stop unconditionally and definitively its bombing raids and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., withdraw all U.S. and A.v.N., withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, recognize the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamess people and enter interli-Vietnamese people and enter into talks with the N.F.L. on problems concernwith the N.F.L. on problems concern-ing South Viet Nam and let the Viet-namese people settle themselves their internal affairs, without foreign inter-

"The U.S. government must adopt a serious attitude at the Paris convera serious attitude at the Paris conver-sations, first and foremost by uncon-ditionally stopping the bombing raids and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., so that the conversations can proceed to other questions of concern to both sides.

"5. While deeply appreciating the importance of the movement to support Viet Nam, the conference calls on the peoples of Asia, Africa, and all over the world to further and all over the world to further strengthen the movement to support the Victamases people struggle against the U.S. aggressors struggle against the U.S. aggressors assist the Victamases people in all fields, including recruiting volunteers and applying simultaneous and greater pressure to the U.S. government, to help the Victamases sors and thus fulfil their noble people defeat totally the U.S. aggressors and thus fulfil their noble international duty and contribute to the transfer of the second of the second of the second of the Afro-Asian peoples and all freedom and peace-loving peoples in the world. The conference expresses its firm confidence that with the strength of national unit and determination to struggle for independence, freedom, peace, and reunification of the country and with the strong sympathy and support of the socialist countries, the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole progressive mankind,

including the progressive American people, the heroic Vietnamese people will surely defeat the U.S. aggressors, achieve total victory in their achieve total victory in their struggle to defend the North, liberate the South and realize the reunifi-cation of Viet Nam."

In its appeal, the conference called on all progressive democratic organi-sations to co-ordinate actions and sations to co-ordinate actions and nesort to suitable forms of struggle in furtherance of the general political resolution and the program to ender-ence, especially during the Weeks of Solidarity with the Victamese People beginning October 15, 1968 instil a vigorous mettle into the world people's movement of support for the Victamese people and contribute to the final victory of aggressors, support of the Victory of aggressors, people were the U.S.

The conference's program of action in support of Viet Nam listed a wide range of protest actions against the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam, the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam, of the A.A.P.S.O. and its member countries to Paris to back the D.R.V.N. government's representative and protest against the U.S. government's representative, the holding of a week-long anniversary here Nagwey Van Troi (October here Nagwey Van Troi (October Van Troi (Octob hero Nguyen Van Troi (October 15-21) and the celebrations of the founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liber-

THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

VIET NAM CATHOLICS Term Starts in Stirring Mood

in the Resistance Against U.S. Aggression, for National Salvation

N escalating their war of aggression to North Viet
Nam, the U.S. aggressors
who are even more wicked
than the Devil, have plotted
to destroy the fruits of our
people's labour including
hundreds of old churches

restored after the conclusion

of the war against the French colonialists. So many refur-

hished statues of saints and bished statues of saints and other objects of worship have been destroyed or dam-aged. These offences of theirs have shed a lurid light on the fallacy of their alle-gation that they only strike at military targets. As Saint Paulus has said: "Sepulcrum

patens est guttur eorum, lin-guis suis dolose agebant: vene-num aspidum sub labiis eorum"

(Roma III, 13). Their throat is

an open grave, their tongue talks deception, their lips are

their fatherland, on their peaceful life and their places

of worship, our Vietnamese Catholic folks, like the rest

of our people, have risen up as one man to save the coun-

like a venomous aspic.

Rev. VU XUAN KY

Chairman of the National Liaison Committee of Vietnamese Patriotic and Peace-Louing Catholics

In the countryside, almost all Catholic peasants have joined agricultural co-opera tives. Thanks to the collective mode of production and the technical improvement, rice output has been increasing year after year. Many Ca-tholic co-operatives have reaped I to 2 tons of paddy per hectare in a year in ex-cess of the 5-ton mark set by the state for all co-ops. In six districts of the Bui Chu diocese, the biggest Catholic community in Nam Ha province as well as in North Viet Nam, in 1967 all agricultural co-ops reached or even surpassed the 5-ton mark.

The major fishing areas and salt marshes in North Viet Nam are also areas with a big Catholic popula-tion. In spite of intensive enemy air and naval bom-Revolted by the barbarities of the U.S. aggressors who have encroached upon the independence and freedom of bardments which, in some places, averaged 20 daily, the Catholics continue to cling to the sea and the salt marshes to catch fish and produce salt. While the fish haul is kept at the level of the years before the U.S. started its war of destruction, salt output in 1967 went up by 122% above plan, topp-ing even the peak years in

as one man to save the country, their families and their religion. In the seething resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, the Vietnamese Catholics can pride themselves on their peace time. Along with the production efforts, a movement to join the army or serve national many contributions to the common cause. In the history of the Vietnamese church, defence, communications and defence, communications and transport. has been surging among the Catholic youth. In all parishes, send-off festivals have been held for young nyembers of their flocks goffig to the battle-front. In Nghe An province, thousands of Catholic youths never as today have there been so many good deeds and so many examples of self-sacrifice for the independence and freedom of the country, for the flourish of Christian-

military duty in their own blood. In hamlet H. in Nam Ha province with only 76 families, more than 100 young men of the Catholic community asked to join the army. Tens of thousands of young Catholics have so far joined the army and the brigade of young volunteers to fight U.S. aggression, for national salvation. Many families have allowed 3, even A of their sons to join up.
All able-bodied persons who
stay back are members of
the militia, doing equally the militia, doing equally well in production jobs and in the fight against U.S. aircraft, for the defence of their homes, their fields and their churches.

(Continued page 7)

N mid-September, over 10,000 general education school sin North Viet Nam was put into operation. plementary education school was put into operation.

The local people substantially contributed to the repair began the academic year 1968-1969, the fourth "Fight against U.S. Aggression and for National Salvation Year."

of schools and strengthening of A.A. shelters and provided tons of building materials to Infant classes, pre-school classes and adults' complethis effect.

In Hanoi a week - long campaign was launched under mentary education courses also opened. Compared with the slogan "Let everyone take part in educational work!" to raise the collective 1966-1967, the number of infant classes and infant schoolchildren rose respectivesense of responsibility for the education of children.

In Ninh Binh province, a

ly to 2,901 and 165,000 and that of pre-school classes and pre-school children to 3,797 "convention" was agreed on by all families which called for the In summer, the adminisfor the parents', greater concern over the education trative organs, first and fore-most the educational depart-ment and local people, made of their children

of their children.

In Hoa Binh province,
many agricultural co-operatives put by part of the
proceeds from the sale of
vegetables and fish and pig hectic preparation to enable the new classes to function. Refresher crash courses were opened for teachers. Especially, courses on practical to develop education. medecine, physical training and sports, music and paint-ing were organized to promote

Finally, as announced pre-viously, by virtue of a recent decision of the Council of Ministers, scholarship will be granted as from the current term to all students of higher education establishments

tare and a gross output of

15,000 tons.

The rice area is not large

but this already represents a

but this already represents a marvellous achievement in this saline region. To grow rice the H.L. peasants spent a lot of work-days de-saliniz-ing and fertilizing the soil, building irrigation works to turn single-crop fields into double-crop ones, and active by applied intensive faring

PARIS TALKS' 22nd SESSION

THE 22nd session of the official conversations between the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government and the representatives of the U.S. Government was convened in Paris on Sep-

Taking the floor first, U.S. representative Cyrus Vance repeated the slanderous char-ge against the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation that it was "set up and controlled by Hanoi," and brazenly distorted history and facts in an attempt to hood-wink public opinion and mask the U.S. aggression in Viet Nam. He also exerted himself to justify the U.S. stub-born balking of the unconditional cessation of the hombing raids and all other acts of the D.R.V.N.

Speaking in his turn, Minister of State Xuan Thuy pointed out that parallel to its repeated appeals for "de-escalation" and "efforts towards peace," the U.S. government has since March 31, 1968 been stepping up its war of aggression in Viet Nam. In the North, the war of destruction conducted by U.S. air and naval forces has been continuously pushed up. Viciously, U.S. aircraft have been attacking dykes and hydraulic works which are of particular importance in the current rainy season. In the South, the U.S. imperialists have been mounting terrorist raids on the population in the demilitarized zone and in areas around cities and towns and carrying out wanton B.52 bombings of densely populated

areas right on the fringe of Saigon. Referring to U.S. President

Referring to U.S. President Johnson's September 10 state-ment which tried to justify the U.S. policy of war and aggression in Viet Nam and claimed that the restoration of the demilitarized zone was the key problem for peace in Viet Nam, the Vietnamese envoy remarked: "The U.S. Government tries to induce people believe that the war in Viet Nam is a war between the two zones of Viet Nam, stemming from the 'aggression by North Viet Nam against South Viet Nam.' In reality, this is a war of resistance waged by the Vietnamese people against the U.S. troops of aggression who people against the U.S. troops of aggression who have come to Viet Nam by air and by sea from across the Pacific. The way the U.S. poses the problem also betrays its dark design to prolong the partition of Viet Nam, in utter contra-spirit of the 1034 Geneval Agreements on Viet Nam."

Agreements on viet Nam."

The D.R.V.N. chief negotiator said that the "de-Americanization" of the war in Viet Nam advocated by the U.S. side was in fact tantamount to continuation of its war of agression, with the use of more forces of the nuopet army and of the puppet army and administration. It is for that purpose that the U.S. has been doing everything in its power to vamp up the puppet administration, he said. He also pointed to the ignomi-nious failure of the U.S. psy-war moves and the increased awakening of patriotism among those who are forced to serve as cannon fodder for the U.S. imperialists: hundreds of anti-way radists: hundreds of anti-war actions, mutinies and upris-ings had broken out within the ranks of the puppet army and hundreds of thou-sands of puppet soldiers had returned to the people.

Mr. Xuan Thuy demanded that the U.S. side cease its empty professions of peace and take practical steps to create real conditions for an advance towards peace, which simply means that the U.S simply means that the U.S. must unconditionally stop the bombings and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam so that other questions of interest to both parties can be discussed and the avenue to Nam problem can be open Nam problem can be opende. On September 16, 1968,
U Thant again declared
that "the essential first
step is a complete and
unconditional cessation of
bombing of North Viet Nam."
French Foreign Minister Miconditional space of the september of Gaulle considered such a course of action to be a real-istic one if one wants to achieve a solution of the Viet

Nam problem." Refuting the fallacious al-legations of Mr. Cyrus Vance, the Vietnamese representative said: "It is in the Vietnamese people's age-old tradition to close their ranks and fight against foreign aggression and build their country. In South Viet Nam at present, the peo-ple of all strata who are opposed to U.S. aggression have rallied in the National Front for Liberation to resist the U.S. aggressors and save the country. That is just like the Vietnamese people."

Mr. Xuan Thuy declared that "if the U.S. really re-spects the right to self-deterspects the right to self-deter-mination of the South Viet-namese people, why does it not withdraw its troops from South Viet Nam and let the South Vietnamese people decide their own internal affairs? On the contrary, the U.S. is stubbornly holding on to South Viet Nam and maintaining the Saigon puppet administration. This only shows U.S. complete disregard for the right to self-

Vietnamese people and intention to prolong the partition of Viet Nam."

Once again, Mr. Xuan Thuy exposed the traitorous and anti-popular nature of the Thieu-Ky puppet administra-tion, and stressed in conclu-

"As the U.S. is the agglessor of Viet Nam, it has to put an end to its aggression. As it has escalated the war to North Viet Nam, it must oring to an unconditional its bombing and other natt its bombing and other acts of war on the whole ter-ritory of the D.R.V.N., pull out all U.S. and satellite troops and leave the South Viet Nam people to settle their own affairs without

VIET NAM COURIER

Programs of THE VOICE OF VIET NAM for listeners in North America

and Northern Europe THE VOICE OF VIET NAM is broadcasting in English daily:

FOR NORTH AMERICA

- At 9.10 and 10.40 p.m. (EST) on 31 metres, 9,525 KCs - At 11.40 p.m. (EST) on 19 metres, 6,135 KCs. and 2.40 a.m. (EST) on 31 metres, 9,655 KCs.

FOR NORTHERN EUROPE

- At 4.20 p.m. (EST), that is 21.20 (GMT), on 19 metres, 15,230 KCs.

CATHOLIC VILLAGE

pre-school child and 198,000.

H is a major coastal the major coastal that the major coastal that the major coastal that a population of more than a population of more than the major coastal of Catabolic faith. The major coastal church was built there. 13 more churches have been constructed ever since, mak-ing of H.L. one of the biggest Christian communities in North Viet Nam.

H.L. is endowed with a fishy coast, vast salt marshes and fertile rice-fields. Yet, under the colonial - feudal regime the people always lived in want. Beside towering churches were shabby peasant huts. The toiling

changes, wooden and theror-ed houses mushroomed every-where. Salt making, fishery and rice growing were given full scope for development. But soon the U.S. started its war of destruction against North Viet Nam, dropping

brought in 350 tons of fish. In one particular case, a boat took 60 tons in a single haul.

For the salt makers, a sunny

day is invaluable. But the

U.S. marauders also avail themselves of sunny days to

intensify their air raids often intensity their air raids, often striking in the most unexpect-ed time. In reply, the local people dig air-raid shelters at their work sites. When the planes come, they disperse and go for cover. When the

education in all respects. In Nghe An province, despite the intensification of U.S.

bombings, new teachers' schools were set up in the lowlands and in the high-

methods. As a result, in 1967 they reaped more than 5 tons of paddy on each hectare in a year.

It is an unusual sight for those who pass by H.L. to see salt marshes and the sea on this side of the dyke and luxuriant paddy fields on the bombs on the churches and the Catholic hamlets. Immediately the Catholics held other. On the dyke itself, cartloads of fish, salt or rice conferences to discuss ways and means to "defend the creed and the country." Procartloads of ish, sait or rice are transported to the store-houses of co-operatives. In spite of frenzied attacks by the U.S. pirates, the H.L.peo-ple continue to build more fishduction teams and the militia signed emulation pledges to produce well and fight well. In peace-time conditions in 1964 the fishing fleet of H.L. only made an annual catch of 150-170 tons. In 1967, in ing boats, buy more agricul-tural machines. 38 more store-houses have also been erected. spite of intense enemy aerial and naval bombardments it

Not in production alone have the H.L. villagers proved their worth. They have also put up a brave and effective fight against the air marauders. It is safe to say that every adult is a fighter with his gun at the ready, and there are airraid shelters and combat trenches on every available plot of land. The local militia has shot down 3 U.S. planes not far from where two churches stand. here two churches stand. Whereas there was not a single school in the village in

and go for cover. When the planes are gone the salt work-ers come out and resume production, filling the bomb craters to ensure that the planned area of salt marshes is not cut down. It can be said the colonial days, H.L. now has its own primary and elementary schools, in addirementary schools, in addi-tion to 18 pre-school classes, Religious services are not neglected even in the condi-tions of an urgent fight. Sunday masses are held re-gularly. The only difference that each grain of salt had to be snatched from the enemy's hand. On Christmas eve in 1967 is that as a security precauthe Catholic folk in H.L. gathered for a social to celebrate a record year in salt tion against enemy raids the parish vicar officiates in one church in the morning and production: 13 tons per hecin another in the evening.



Ricefield work in Thach Bich Catholic village (Ha Tay province)

Viet Nam War in the Eye of International Law

Reiprocity' as a Condition for the Cessation of Bombing of North Viet Nam." J.H. Crown and Professor H.E. Fried, the well-known reporter of the important juridical memorandum "Viet

Nam and International Law," affirmed

"It (the U.S.) has for years been conducting an illegal war against North Viet Nam. Hence, the U.S. could not, in law or fairness, demand "counter-concessions" if it were to stop that Paris talks, they concluded: "The duplicity of our behaviour at the conference leads me to believe that our presence there is a deception." Professor R. Falk, having paid a brief visit to North Wet Nam before comise the conductivity of the professor of the professor in the profess

eloquent pieces of evidence of facts he had witnessed. On the character of the

war in Viet Nam, he affirms at the ros-trum of the Conference: "This is a ques-

tion of the self-determination of the Viet

namese people in the face of the neo-colonialist aggression. It is a whole

colonialist agression. It is a whole country jubing against foreign agression, there is no civil war. He concountry jubing against foreign agression, there is no civil war. He concountry the concountry that is not because of the representation of the country, trom the North to the South. It is only because of the regrouping that one has created the impression of two poles. These declarations which of two poles.

difficult confrontation for the American negotiators. In Grenoble the American delegation set, shoulder to shoulder

with the delegations of the D.R.V.N. and the N.F.L., an example of a conscious and militant solidarity, and

gave an illustration, as R. Falk himself

put it, of the "non-passivity of the world's peoples in the common struggle of all peoples."

Other eminent lawyers also made valuable contributions to the Grenoble meeting, such as Dr. Pritt, renowned

lawyer, Professor Henri Rollin,

THE holding of the World Conference of Lawyers for Viet Nam in France last July—two months after the opening of the official talks in Paris will certainly go down as a memorable date in the history of modern international law. It bears witness to the wide awake conscience of those legal authorities hailing from all parts of the in Europe, America (North), Asia, Africa and Latin America, to cast their weight in the balance of forces opposing the Vietnamese people acting in legitimate defence to the Yankee aggressor trying to impose his neo-colonialism, opposing the respect of the fundamental national rights of the peoples to jungle law, opposing law to brutal force, justice to iniquity, and freedom to slavery. The rity of them were statesmen, uni-

versity professors, renowned barristers coming from more than 40 countries with different, even antagonistic political systems, including belligerent countries, as the Victamene and American lawyers. Meeting mostly for the first time, they nevertheless were unanimous in approving a Final Declaration, an Appeal, four Resolutions by four commissions in charge of the four principal items on the agenda and a Resolution on practical deeds to carry the Contersystems, including belligerent countries on practical deeds to carry the conter-ence's decisions into effect. At a time when U.S. bad faith in the Paris talks pursues its attempt to pull wool over the eyes of the world's peoples on the truth in Viet Nam and the true sense of international law, the Gren ments constitute a stern indictment of the American thesis and an eloquent plea for the Vietnamese position.

FIRST POINT

U.S. AGGRESSION AS SEEN BY INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE FIGHT OF THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE FOR THEIR FUNDAMENTAL NATIONAL RIGHTS

THE essential legal issue regarding an equitable solution of any war is the definition of the responsibility for its initiative and its launching. Who and who is the victim? Hence the ille gality of the aggression and the legality of the defence. What is more, the fundamental basis, on which the whole edifice of international law, if any, rests can be nothing other than the respect for the fundamental national rights of the people. Thus, by putting the question of "the U.S. aggression as seen by international law and the fight of the Vietnamese people for their fundamental national rights," first and foremost on its agenda, the World Conference of Lawyers in Grenoble edifice of international law if any rests put its finger on the crux of the problem of the war in Viet Nam. The setting up of a committee to support So lawyers of repute from 40 countries, chiefly from the West, a couple of weeks after the adoption of this agenda, brought to this agenda the immense material force of a quasi-instant world backing.

Obviously, such an enthusiastic res-ponse from lawyers was not to the liking of Ambassador W. Averell Harriman, U.S. representative to the Paris talks, who in the early sessions of the parley already complained: "... People are re-writing history: This is an un-fortunate and absolutely unnecessary way to begin the conversations.' the stark fact," the Appeal of the Grenoble Conference points out, "is that the version of the war as presented by the chief of the Ame delegation has re-written and distorted the historical facts." And, it is by basing himself on that re-written and distorted history to meet the needs of the U.S. policy of neo-colonialist domi-nation, of a division of Viet Nam after Geneva in two States north and south of the 17th parallel, that the American representative in Paris re-fused the unconditional cessation of the bombing of North Viet Nam and insisted on "reciprocity" on the part of the D.R.V.N. Government. It is understandable, therefore, that in Gre-noble the world's lawyers had to reconstitute first of all the historical facts ican propaganda, and afterwards to examine them in the light of the genuine international law as accepted by honest and well-meaning men.

Concerning this first item of business Concerning this first item of business following the basic report submitted by the head of the delegation of lawyers of the D.R.V.N., many eminent lawyers delivered their elaborate reports. Let us quote from only a few of

them. The delegation of Japanese lawyers headed by Professor Hasegawa Marchan of the Nagoya University of the Nagoya University of the Nagoya University of the Name and the other, prepared by the Japanese Lawyers' International Laison Association, dealt with "The Truth of the So-Called Tookin Gull Incidents".

The Cambodian lawyer, doctor of law, ounsellor to the Cambodian Embassy counsellor to the Cambodian Embassy in France, Mr. Ong Khuy Treng, forcefully denounced what he termed "Ireng, forcefully denounced what he termed "Ireng forcefully denounced what he termed "Ireng forcefully denounced with the Ireng forcefully lawyer and citizen of a country firmly leadyed to pursue its neutral and peaceful policy and which lies next many rescribed and the strongest terms:

Treng affirmed in the strongest terms:

'As has been eloquently proved by many speakers at this forum, the only owneyly eight has violated and is visitative. ing more and more systematically the Geneva Agreement is the United States. We know quite well that it was the only one not to sign them." He affirmed that "Viet Nam is one and indivisible and the Vietnamese people have the full right—I would say the duty—to take self-defence in any part of their ter-

In his report, the famous Soviet lawyer, Academician Gregory Tunkin, one of the Nuremberg judges, a great specialist of international law, gave the following qualification to the American action in Viet Nam: "a) Armed inter-vention to prevent the Vietness peo-ple from exercising their right to selfple from exercising their right to self-determination; b) Use of armed force against a people to impose its will on them and secure its domination over them. Both are gravest violations of international law. Both are considered crimes by international law. The armed attack by the United States against the D.R.V.N. constitutes a new criminal D.R.V.N. constitutes a new criminal breach of the fundamental principles of international law. It is an extension of the aggression against the Vietnamese people and, at the same time, an attack against a State."

Two British lawyers of world fame, an Browlie, Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, and Paul O'Higgins, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, sent to the Conference their written address on the "Legal Aspects of the Armed Conflict in Viet Nam." They bis the Conference the Conference their written address on the "Legal Aspects of the Armed Conflict in Viet Nam." They objectively examined the facts and analysed the principal juridical docu-ments related to Viet Nam. In every point of their report, the British lawyer disposed of the American historical and juridical theses.

The American delegation comprising such renowned lawyers as Professor of international law of Princeton, R. Falk, the President and the Secretary General Pierre Chaumont played a particularly active role in the drafting of the Final Declaration and the Resolution of the of the Lawyers' Committee on American Policy Toward Viet Nam, W.L. Standard and J.H. Crown, and first commission. w.L. Standard and J.H. Crown, and other well-known professors and at-torneys, made active and valuable contributions to the Conference. In their important joint brief entitled "The Illegality of U.S. Demands for

The joint efforts of world-famous and loyal lawyers helped the conference re clear and correct conclusions on the first item of the agenda:

On the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people: "It (the Conference) notes the imprescriptible right of the Vietnamese people to national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the age-old and indivisible unity of the Vietnamese nation" (Declaration).

On the nature of the war and its qualification with regard to the opponents: "It declares that such a war (the U.S. war in Viet Nam) is a war of (the U.S. war in Viet Nam) is a war of aggression, a crime against the independence and existence of the Vietnames people, and a neo-colonialist-type moderaking of oppression, and that therefore, the Vietnamese people in the South and the North alike, are in a position of legitimate defence" (Doclaration).

On the true character of the U.S. bombing against North Viet Nam:
"After having attacked the Vietnamese
people in the South, the U.S. governpeople in the South, the U.S. govern-ment has extended its aggression to the D.R.V.N. This extension has particu-larly taken the form of large-scale bomb-ings which have gained in intensity even after the declaration of the 'limitation' of the bombings made by President Johnson on March 31, 1968" (Declaration).

On the substance of transgressed nternational law, the Resolution of the first Commission concluded: " The aggression of the United States et Nam is a violation of the that was the supercised of any light-misdeness or partiality suffice to could not be suspected of any light-misdeness or partiality suffice to refute all along the line the Italiacious allegations of the U.S. in Paris about commitment," "the North aggression against the South" and finally "the presence of North Vietnames troops in oncluded in his firther basis, R. Paris of the Commitment, and the commitment, and the correspondent of the French paper Combar: "I think the U.S. govern-ment has no ground, either juricleal or The Paris talks decidedly are a hard and difficult confrontation for the American Geneva Agreements and the fundamental principles of modern international law which have been set forth namely in articles I and 2, 2 and I, and 2 and 4 of the United Nations Charter, as well a in many resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly and other international instruments to which the United States is ari important signatory. These docu-ments endorse the right of the peoples to decide their own destiny, the prohi-bition of the use of force against a people yearning for independence and the prohibition of interference in the internal affairs of other peoples."

On these grounds, the Resolution dismissed the American theses: "The dismissed the American theses: "The historical facts and the principles recalled above shed light on the fallacious character of U.S. argument of presumed 'legitimacy' of U.S. presence in South Viet Nam by virtue of its so-called 'commitment' to a 'State' in South Viet Nam and of ect' for the Geneva Agree-It also declared: "... There can be no 'reciprocity' between the aggressor and the nation defending itself against aggression."

SECOND POINT :

THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S SELF-DETERMINATION IN THE LIGHT OF THE N.F.L. POLITICAL PROGRAM

N his first declarations at the Paris talks, the U.S. representative did not cease repeating the theme that "the U.S. stands for self-determination of the South Vietnamese people without foreign interference and oppression "(!). He even put forward the "one man He even put forward the "one man one vote" solution. He claimed that the half million G.I.s in South Viet Nam are there to defend the self-determination of the South Vietnamese people threatened by the Norther munists" 'invasion and sub This false contention is part of the artificial neo-colonialist "existence of

two Viet Nams (North and South) sophism which has been branded by the American lawyer R. Falk as "grotesque" and "absurd." The neo-colonialist cynism has rhom they label "communist" of communist-led" North Vietnamese. If the U.S. government and its re-presentative in Paris have been compelled to speak of self-determination, that

Belgian Minister of State, and M. is because on the international plane, Becaye N'Diaye, Prosecutor of the Republic of Bomako. The French lawyer view Nam problem as a whole and this question lies at the heart of the Viet Nam problem as a whole and of the South Viet Nam problem in particular.

In his Report that followed the basic In his Report that followed the basic Report submitted by the head of the lawyers' delegation of South Viet Nam (N.F.L.). Academician G. Tunkin rightly said: "An analysis of the main features of the Viet Nam situation clearly shows that on the part of the Vietnamese people, it is a question of realizing the right of the peoples to self-determination." The structs five realizing the right of the peoples to self-determination." The struggle, first political then military, waged over the past fourteen years by the people in South Viet Nam against the U.S. South Viet Nam against the U.S. neo-colonial regime, is but a concrete expression of the struggle for the realization of the right to self-determination, against foreign interference and domination.

In its introduction, the Resolution of the second commission of the Confer-ence stated: "The war of aggression conducted by the U.S. of America in Viet Nam constitutes a challenge to the principle of self-determination guaranteed to all peoples by modern international law." As regards the U.S. manoeuvres to set up a "State" in South Viet Nam with its self-styled governments," it concluded in these "The artificial and unilateral conferring of a competence as a distinct state upon a government for the South which solely relies on the material, political and military support of the U.S., constitutes a violation of the rights the Vietnamese people to genuine self-determination. The different governments that have succeeded one another ever since in Saigon, have been only an expression of the U.S. attempts to to the Vietnamese people the

exercise of their rights, and the evident deceitfulness of the self-styled govern-ment of Saigon is underscored by its total lack of effectiveness, representa-tiveness and independence." On the N.F.L., the Resolution said: "In most N.F.L., the Resolution said: "In most parts of the territory now freed from all foreign interference, an effective administration is supplied by the N.F.L. and the said of the said of the said of the N.F.L. and the said of Resolution also noted that the N.F.L. rallied political forces extremely diverse, united by the same aspiration for national independence."

On the basis of these conclusions on the non-effectiveness, non-representativeness and dependence of the Saigon overnment, and on the other hand, o the effectiveness, representativeness and independence of the N.F.L., the Resoindependence of the N.F.L., the Reso-lution appreciated the legitimacy and well-foundedness of the principal lines of the N.F.L. Political Program for the self-determination of the South Viet-pamese people in these terms: "The violation of international agreements can in no way recall in question the fundamental unity of the Vietnamese people, even if it has created a practical situa-tion which has artificially led the southern part to live in a distinct organisation. Proceeding from this state of things, the N.F.L. sets forth, with a view to gradual reunification, a political program for an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam, expression of the right to self-determination of the Vietnamese people in the

On the significance of this right, the Resolution specified in its final part: "The Vietnamese people have the same rights as any other people to enjoy freely and without foreign interfer their rights to free disposal and self-determination. All limitation to the full exercise of these rights can be only an offence and a threat to the exercise of the same rights by all other peoples.

LATEST ASPECTS OF THE MEANS AND METHODS OF WAR APPLIED BY THE FORCES OF AGGRESSION IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

HE U.S. war crimes in Viet Nam were carefully examined and vigorously condemned by the Bertrand Russell International Tribunal of human conscience, the International Permanent nvestigation Commission set up on the initiative of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, and by many other international and national organisations from the East to the The Grenoble Conference considered in particular the latest aspects of the war crimes perpetrated by the United States desperate death bed struggle faced with the generalized offensives and widespread uprisings mounted and widespread uprisings mounted against it by the armed forces of the N.F.L. and the people of South Viet

On this point, Professor J. Salmon of the Brussells University submitted a valuable report which is both systematic and up-to-date titled "Violations of War Law by the U.S. in the Viet Nam Conflict" following the basic Report submitted by the Vietnamese lawyers of the North and the South (N.F.I.)

In this sense, the Resolution of the Third Commission on this subject also took a form which is both American neo-colonialist cynism has gone so far as to attempt to metamorphose the G.I.s and U.S. satellites in the "companion-in-arms" of the South Vietnamese people and into "companionate the thind kin Vietnamese people. Vietnamese people, crimes against peace, crimes against mankind, crimes of genocide and war crimes."

> It laid particular stress on the characteristics of American genocide. On the

strength of the facts provided by the Vietnamese lawyers coupled with an exhibition of photos and film projec-tions, the Resolution recognized that the forces of aggression apart from aiming at physical destruction of unparallel barbarity, also aimed at the spiritual, family, cultural, economic and political life of the Vietnamese national group. One is witnessing deliberate and intentional terror and extermination against the Vietnamese people, a total war, to force the latter, by trying to break its moral resistance, to sul definitively to foreign domination. This policy has assumed a still more intense and odious character since January 1968, date of the general upri the South Viet Nam people, chiefly in the towns and cities which the forces of aggression themselves consider to be their own strongholds and which have been subjected to more and more massive destruction without regard for the density of the population or the historic character of the places."

The Resolution also exposed "the fallacious character of those arguments by which the U.S. forces tried to free themselves from their responsibility for these crimes," such as the "civil war" theme (which is rather a war of aggression directed, planned, conducted financed by the United States), or the "good will," "restraint," and "uni-lateral de-escalation" allegations (which de-escalation is in fact a camouflaged intensification with a growing will of extermination and destruction, and constitutes actually a real escalation).

FOURTH POINT :

LEGAL BASIS OF THE REFUSAL TO TAKE PART IN THE WAR OF AGGRESSION

Grenoble Conference actually dealt with the legal aspect of the war in Viet Nam in its international bearings. The conclusions on this point will just rify all the activities, military and non-military, against the U.S. war in Viet Nam, in South Viet Nam as elsewhere in the world, in the United States (for the dissenters, the deserters, the young men opposing the draft and those abetting them...), in Europe, Japan, Australia, the Philippines, Thailand...

The Resolution of the Fourth Commission on this issue was based on sound

right to force its nationals to commit a

"Secondly, it is now established that individuals are also bound by interna-tional law to certain rights and espe-cially some duties. The Nuremberg nal declared that the very spirit of the London Agreement lies in the fact that individuals have international duties that transcend the national obligations of obeyance imposed by their countries... Above all, this fundamental principle applies to the conduct of a war of aggression, the supreme and most dangerous crime man has ever By combining these two indiscutable

principles in the legal as well as moral respects, in particular after the painful experiences of mankind in the two world wars within a quarter of century. the Resolution concluded: "Just as a State may not conduct a war of aggression, it may still less require from another State to which it may be bound by a treaty, or from an individual who may be its national, that they should commit such a grave offence against international law. In consequence, no individual can be obliged to obey any government whatsoever, if he is ordered to commit an act which would constitute an international crime. This rule is expressly recognized by the mili-tary code of many countries, among them the United States of America.
All these principles constitute, eithe directly or by analogy, the legal basis for the refusal by an individual or another State to take part in a war of aggression." In its second part, the Resolution also listed patent facts about a marked increase of very diversified cases of "young men who resist the draft, of dissenters in exile in Canada, of Amer-ican deserters (in Europe), of organisations who abet and encourage the Amer

With these conclusions on the fourth point of its agenda, the world's lawyers

N including this item in its agenda, the meeting in Grenoble gave a comprehensive appraisal of the illegal and criminal character of the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam

> ONFIDENT in the soundness of their conclusions and the invincples prevailing over the law of force brandished by the United States, the world's lawyers declared in Grenoble that "it (the Conference) condemns the war of aggression conducted by the United States in Viet Nam in violation of international law and urges from the United States government

> r) The immediate and unconditional cessation of the aerial and naval bom-bardments and all other acts of war

Cessation of the war of aggression against South Viet Nam.

Acceptance of the principles of na-tional self-determination as basis for the settlement of the political future of South Viet Nam without any foreign

4) Withdrawal of all troops of the United States and its allies from the territory of South Viet Nam.

5) Recognition of the N.F.L. as the authentic representative of the South Viet Nam people in its liberation struggle.

6) Recognition of the great significance of the founding of the Alliance of Na-tional, Democratic and Peace Forces, composed of foremost independent political personalities, active in the towns of South Viet Nam" (Appeal).

Besides, the world's lawyers expressed their "profound conviction that the he-roic fight of the Vietnamese people supported by all the progressive forces throughout the world will end in victory, thus making a great contribution to the struggle of all peoples in the world for national independence, democracy, social progress and peace " (Appeal),

With this prospect in mind, the docu-ments of Grenoble will undoubtedly go down as a landmark in the history of modern international law and a legal charter arraigning U.S. neo-colonialist aggression in Viet Nam and taking the defence of the Vietnamese people whose struggle for their own fundamental national rights has been unanimously considered by the world's lawyers in Grenoble " a fundamental element for the defence of freedom and equality of the peoples and the rights of the peoples to self-determi-nation in the world."



Anti-Viet Nam war demonstration in San Francisco

VIET NAM AND THE WORLD AT LARGE

Reunion Communist Party Delegation Friendship Visit to D.R.V.N.

A T the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, a delegation of the Communist Party Reunion Communist Party led by Comrade Paul Verges, Secretary General of the Party, paid a friendship visit to the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam from August 3t to September 10, 1968. The delegation includes Comrades: Marrice Labenne, member of Maurice Labenne, member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee Laurence Verges, member of the Central Committee, member of the Editorial Board of the daily *Temoi-*gnages, central organ of the Reunion Communist Party.

The delegation visited a number of industrial, agricultural, cultural and social establishments, had inter-views with leaders of the Viet Nam Federation of Trade Unions and the Viet Nam Women's Union, called at the Representation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation in North Viet Nam. It also visited Hai Phong port city and the Hong Quang coal-mine area. Everywhere the "The delegation warmly delegation was received very warmly by Vietnamese cadres and people of various strata.

The delegation of the Reunion Communist Party was received by Comrade Ho Chi Minh President of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, who had with it a cordial conversation.

The delegation of the Reunion Communist Party and the delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party headed by Comrade Le Duan, First retary of the Central Committee, held talks in a

THE Third National Allian-ce Political Conference of the Neo Lao Haksat

(Lao Patriotic Front) and the

Lao patriotic neutralist forces

was held in a free area of Laos

on September 7, Khaosan Pathet Lao (KPL) reported.

In his opening speech, Prince Souphanouvong, Chair-man of the N.L.H. Central

Committee emphasized the significance of the Confer-

"Three years ago, also in

this revolutionary base our two revolutionary parties solemnly held the first con-

ference at which we reaffirm

ed the imperative, practical

close and lasting co-opera-

and set to ourselves common

tasks in our fight against the U.S. imperialists and their

ties have been standing shoulder to shoulder in the

nation-wide bloc of unity of the entire people, and have been joining hands in carrying

result, we have won one

victories which have tipped the scales in favour of the Lao patriotic forces who are among those standing in the

out these common tasks. As

"Ever since, our two par-

of a union and

ence. He said :

necessity

cordial and friendly atmos-

The two delegations had an exchange of views on the strengthening of the friendly relations between the two Parties and of mutual sunport for the revolutionary struggle of each respective

On September 14, a communique on the visit of the delegation of the Reunion Communist Party to the D.R.V.N. was made public in Hanoi. It reads as follows: "Its visits, interviews and

talks have brought to the delegation of the Reunion Communist Party a full real-Communist Party a full real-ization of the great successes recorded by the Vietnamese people in their war of resist-ance against the American imperialists, for national sal-vation, as well as of the tremendous progress of the building of socialism in North Viet Nam. It has also got a clear picture of the utterly harbarous crime of awgression barbarous crime of aggression committed by American im-perialism in Viet nam...

greets the resounding victo ries recorded by the People's Liberation Armed Forces and the South Viet Nam people in their successive waves of offensives and uprisings since early this year ... "The Delegation of the

Reunion Communist Party expresses its firm conviction that, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and on the strength of the inestimable support and as-sistance of the socialist countries and the world's people including the progres-sive American people, the

frontline of the world's peo-ple's struggle against U.S.

time when very important changes have taken place, which will favourably affect

the fate of our Fatherland. In our country, our enemy has been thrown into a state

of strategic passivity while our people are acting on the offensive with increased mettle and are attacking the adversary on all battlefields.

"I hope that with the deep sense of our duty toward

our country, our revolution-ary spirit and firm mutual confidence, the conference will devote its efforts to

analyzing the current situa-tion, and correctly map out

diate future so that both our

forces may successfully carry

out the mission entrusted u

by our people and our Father-land, as well as our obliga-

tion towards the world

common tasks for the

Now, we meet again at a

News from . [A] S

Vietnamese people will un-doubtedly defeat the U.S. aggressors in their effort to aggressors in their effort to defend the North, liberate the South and progress toward the peaceful reunification of Viet Nam.

"On behalf of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Vietnamese working class and people, the delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party voices its profound gratitude to the Reunion Communist Party for its great apprecia-tion of the Vietnamese people's resistance war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and its warm sup-port to this resistance as well as to the building of socialism as to the building of socialism in North Viet Nam. This support constitutes a splendid manifestation of the prole-tarian internationalism of the

class and people with a view to the autonomy of the Reunion and the ultimate

liberation of this country from the domination of French

colonialism. The revolutionary

struggle of the Reunion people constitutes a positive contribution to the common

struggle of the peoples in Africa and the world against imperialism, colonialism and

neo-colonialism, for peace, national independence, demo-racy and social progress."

THIRD NATIONAL ALLIANCE POLITICAL CONFERENCE MEETS

revolution, and most immediately, that of Southeast Asia."

Speaking next, Khamsouk Keola, neutralist minister in the Lao national coalition

government, expressed his great gratification at the

convening of the conference, and his firm belief that the

conference would strengthen the solidarity between the

two revolutionary forces of

Laos and encourage them to dash forward toward yet

He also voiced gratitude to

Prince Souphanouvong and the Neo Lao Haksat Central

Committee for their heartfelt assistance which had enabled

the Lao patriotic neutralist forces to grow up, develop,

"We will do our utmost

and enhance their prestige.

for the success of the confer-

ence so as to lead our national salvation struggle to still

greater victories and achieve a peaceful, independent,

greater victories.

Reunion Communist Party Reunion Communist Party and a powerful encouragement for the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors. "The delegation of the Viet Nam Worker's Party feels greatly elated at the given a fraternal welcome by the local cadres and people. successes achieved by the Reunion Communist Party and warmly supports the revo-lutionary cause of the Reunion Communist Party which is to unite all democratic forces and the Reunion working

talk with them. It held talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere with a delegation of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam led by Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Premier in Committee and Premier in which views were exchanged on the strengthening of the friendship between the two countries and on questions of interest to both sides.

During the visits, interviews and talks, the Cuban Party and Government delegation

A New Token of Viet Nam - Cuba Militant Solidarity

A the invitation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a delegation of the Communist Party and Revolutionary Government of Cuba led by Haydee Santa-maria Cuadrado, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and Chairman of the "Casa de Las Americas," paid a visit to the D.R.V.N. from September 5 to 16, 1968.

The delegation visited a number of industrial, cultural and social establishments and called at the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam N. F. L. in North Viet Nam. It also visited Nam Ha and Quang Binh provinces and Hai Phong port city. Everywhere it went, it was

The Cuban delegation was received by President Ho Chi Minh who had a hearty

neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos,"

prosperous Lao amsouk Keola stressed.

In the afternoon, the conference heard an important political report by Prince Soupha-

nouvong and other reports by Colonel Deuane Sunnalat, commander-in-chief of the

Commander-in-chief of the Lao patriotic neutralist armed forces and General Khamuon Boupha, comman-der of the Lao patriotic neutralist forces in Upper Laos, on the close co-opera-

tion between the two Lao

revolutionary forces, and the growth of the Lao patriotic

After 7 days of discussion in

an atmosphere of whole-hearted co-operation, the conference ended in success

on September 13. Unanimity was reached on

alf matters.

'At the closing session, the conference unanimously approved two important documents—a resolution and a and their Lao quislings.

neutralist forces

all matters.

expressed admiration for the Vietnamese people's valiant fighting spirit, and high appreciation of the imaginativeness of the Vietnamese people in dealing with very hard prob-lems of the fighting and production. The visit has strengthened its firm belief in the certain victory of the Vietnamese revolution.

The Vietnamese delegation warmly welcomed the achieve. ments of the Cuban people under the leadership of the Communist Party and Revolutionary Government of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz in the struggle against all intervention of U.S. imperialism, to defend heroic Cuba, build a socialist economy in Cuba and in the vigorous support for the national liberation movement in Latin America. It was convinced that still greater sucban people.

It also voiced its deep gratitude to the people, Com-munist Party and Revolutionary Government of Cuba for their heartfelt and disinterested assistance to the Vietnamese people's resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and to socialist construction in North Viet Nam.

The friendship visit of the Cuban Party and Government delegation that has just successfully concluded, was a new contribution to the strengthening of the militant solidarity and fraternal co-operation between Viet Nam and Cuba.

statement on the present situation and the tasks of all the Lao patriotic forces.

The conference also sent a

message to the Central Com-mittee of the South Viet Nam

National Front for Liberation

greeting the 1st anniversary (September 1) of the announ-

cement of the Front's Politi-

Liberation Armed Forces and

Representing the Lao patriotic neutralist forces, Khamsouk Keola took the

Rhamsouk Reola took the floor to lay stress on the necessity of strengthening the solidarity, co-operation and mutual assistance between the Neo Lao Haksat and the Lao patriotic neutralists with

a view to bringing the current struggle against U.S. aggres-sion to complete victory.

Other delegates went up the rostrum to express their

elation at the successes of

the conference and their resolve to strictly carry out

the conference's resolution

to cement the nation-wide solidarity bloc, and to step

up the fighting and production

VIET NAM CATHOLICS ... & Puppet Battalion

(Continued from page 3) difference now is that to suit the wartime conditions and

Village P. lying on the bank of the Gianh River in Quang Binh province, has been subject to more than 2,000 air attacks. The village has virtually been rared to the ground. Yet the popula-tion, predominently Catholic, and to a subject to their land to carry on production, taking advantage of short spells between two enemy raids to grow and tend their crops. Rice and sweet potatoes continue to their potatoes continue to thrive, the children continue to attend classes and the chur-ches continue their regular services. The local militia has shot down a U.S. plane. As a tribute to their contribu-tions to the anti-U.S. resist-ance, the Government has awarded 150 certificates of merits and 10 medals to various communities and individuals in the village. The population of neighbouring areas gave the village the worthy name of "steel bastion on the bank of the Gianh River." H.L., another predominently Catholic village situated on the coast of Nam Ha province, has been bomb-ed round the clock by U.S. planes, yet production has not been disrupted and the local militia has shot down three U.S. planes. Nguyen Thi Xuan, a 19-year-old Catholic militia-woman in Quang Binh province, has shot down by herself a U.S. plane with 23 rounds of infantry gun.

In the midst of war, the material and spiritual life of our Catholic folks is, on the whole, ensured and, in some places even improved. Religious services are not neglected because of the war. Masses are duly performed not only on major Christian holy days but also daily. The only

as a precaution against enemy attacks, the Catholics often change the places and sche dules of their religious services.
And to provide more security
for the attendants, solid air raid shelters have been built wherever masses are held. Enjoying an ever better material life and the full liberty to practise their religion, our Catholic folks are emulating one another to achieve more and more meritorious deeds in the com-

meritorious deeds in the com-mon movements of the North Vietnamese people to build model families with "three ready's" youths (1), "three responsibility's" women (2), "three able's" old men and women (3) and "good nephews and nieces of Uncle Ho." In the past year, in the Bui Chu diocese in Nam Ha province and the Hanoi diocese alone, more than 10,000 Catholic families were recognized as "model families" in the antiU.S. resistance, for national salvation. Many Catholics, awarded medals by the Government, or badges bearing President Ho's portrait. Worthy of note is that among those decorated heroes and the decorate heroes and the deco more than 10,000 Catholi

The Catholic clergy has also made worthy contribu-tions to the common struggle. Besides their religious duties, the Catholic priests have actively encouraged the mem-bers of the Christian community in their production and fighting tasks. Many have overcome dangers and nardships and reach places frequently raided by enemy planes to give sermons and

administered blessings to the Catholic believers. On the other hand, during their conferences at the provincial as well as central levels, the priests have enthusiastically made suggestions on ways and means to better serve anti-U.S. resistance. In particular, recently four Catholic priests recently four Catholic priests sent in their applications to join the People's Army and take a direct part in the fight or to be given any job at any place as required by the Fa-therland.

All this is a credit to the Catholic church in North Viet Nam. More than ever, we Catholics are confident that Catholics are connecent that under the "determined to fight and to win" banner of President Ho Chi Minh, the resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation of victory, and our Christian faith will shine for ever in the common glory of the nation.

(t) Ready: -to fight (American aggression), fight with courage and join the army, - to surmount all difficulties, boost production work and studies in any circum-

and go to any place the Fa-therland wants them to.

(2) Responsibility: - in

- in family tasks. - in fighting.

(3) Able: - to organize fa-nily life so as to help production.

- to take part in A.A. defence action so as to serve the fighting.

- to contribute to organize

MILITARY OPERATIONS

(Continued from page 8) in a fierce two-hour battle: 600 American casualties.

On Sept. 14, intercepted on Highway No 13, a U.S. reinforcement column lost 2 companies wiped out and 30 tanks and M.113 armoured

Thus in 4 days, from

Sept. 11 to Sept. II to I4, in I0 engagements in that locality, 2 U.S. battalions and 6 2 U.S. Dattailons and o companies and one puppet company were put out of action (1,600 men including the commander of U.S. Di-

an American colonel who, as reported in our last issue, were killed with their es The battle around Duc Lap vision I and a lieutenant

have been raging since one month and between Sept. 8 colonel), 55 armoured vehicles destroyed and 8 choppers and 15, the P.L.A.F. decimat-

ed two puppet battalions.

Sar Pa post, 4km southwest of Duc Lap was taken on Sept. 15: 2 puppet companies

action within 10 days.

NORTH OF QUANG TRI

- From Sept. 1 to 18, 220 Enemy Soldiers Killed, Wounded or Captured, 49 Aircraft Downed, 52 Vehicles Destroyed.

- The General Deputy Commander of U.S. Marine Division 3 Wounded

N Sept. 13, 12 km north-east of Con Tien, 200 enemy troops were killed or wounded, 13 armoured vehicles destroyed and 5 choppers downed in a P.L.A.F attack against an enemy column moving to the demili-tarized zone for an opera-

Meanwhile, the enemy had 150 G.I.'s killed or wounded, 7 tanks destroyed and 2 chop pers downed in another engagement at Con Tien itself

On Sept. 14, 4 km south of Con Tien, 100 G.I.'s were OF THE P. L. A. F.

Saigon Area: In two saigon Area: In two engagements on September 5 against units of U.S. Para Division 101, the regional troops of Cu Chi district put out of action 320 G.I.'s and downed 2 choppers 30 km northwest of Saigon.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

In the city the P.L.A.F. blew up on Sept. 6 the infor-mation hall of the 5th district. The following day, they destroyed a jeep and killed three of its passengers in a busy street, blasted a depot of material and the H.Q. Chiang Kai-shek's spies in

Da Nang Region: About 20 km south of the city, a company of U.S. Marines was wiped out and another decimated on Sept. 10.

17 km south of Da Nang, Western agencies put the losses on September 17 of puppet ranger battalion 39, at 200 killed, wounded or

Hue city Liberation fighters in action

Retuses Battle

and Uprisings Took Place in the Puppet Army

been recorded in four months

up to the end of last August, Giai Phong Press Agency

reported. With 15 cases, the Mekong Delta ranked first.

Then came the First Tactical

Area (5 northernmost prov-inces of South Viet Nam).

with 10 cases. Two cases

took place on May 5 and 8

in the vicinity of Saigon.

Besides, it is worth noting that 5 mutinies were listed

among the units of puppet

Division 22, stationed in the

region of Qui Nhon, the

puppet division.

record number of riots in any

N September 4, the 400-strong Battalion 1 of placed at the disposal of U.S. Division 4 refused to fight the P.L.A.F., UPI Pleiku corre-

spondent reported. This hap-pened in a locality 19km

west of Pleiku. After useless remonstrances and threats to

strafe the mutineers with air-

craft and artillery, the U.S. command gave way and cancelled the operation al-

About forty mutinies and

revolts, most of them by whole groups of men, had

ready under way.

WESTERN HIGH PLATEAUX

1,800 Enemy Troops Put out of Action, 113 Vehicles Destroyed, 34 Planes and Helicopters Downed or Destroyed in the First Half of Sept.

Sar Pa Post, Near Duc Lap. Overrun and 2 Companies Wiped Out.

Gia Lai and Dac Lac (Western High Plateaux),

TO THE READER

is much room for improve-ment in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more iently in future.

the P.L.A.F. wiped out in the first fortnight of September 1,800 enemy troops including 950 G.I.'s, downed or destroy-950 U.I.'s, cowned or destroy-ed 34 aircraft, destroyed 117 vehicles including 50 tanks and armoured cars, 24 can-nons and mortars, Giai Phong Press Agency reported. All Press Agency reported. the three provincial capitals and three airfields were heav-

In Kontum province, from Sept. 8 to 10, 12 choppers were downed and on Sept 8, near Duc Lap, 130 km north-east of Loc Ninh, the P.L.A.F. grounded with 7 rounds of machine guns the helicopter killed and 5 choppers ground-On September 16, a U.S. reinforced company was intercepted near Tan Lam nicknamed "Rockpile" by the

Yankees. Western agencies announced that 151 marine were killed or wounded. The following day, the chopper having on board Gen. William Chip, new deputy commander of Marine Division 3, was downed. All passengers were injured. This was the third general officer put out of

VIET NAM COURIER

VIET NAM COURIER

the 6th district.

ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

Military Operations

HE P.L.A.F. continued to hammer at the enemy concentrations at Tay Ninh and Loc Ninh, respectively 85km and 120km north of Saigon. American and puppet troops suffered heavy losses in fierce battles in which the patriots displaying a great skill destroyed fortified camps and intercepted heavily escorted road convoys.

The P.L.A.F. also achieved substantial successes in the Western High Plateaux (region of Duc Lap) where the fighting had been going on since August 23, and south of the demilitarized zone still impudently violated by the U.S. forces

TAY NINH

- Tra Phi Base Wiped Out the 4th Time : a U.S. Mixed Battelion Put out of Action, 400 G.I.'s Killed or Wounded, 50 Military Vehicles Destroyed

- 2,600 Enemy Soldiers Put out of Action, 20 Planes and Helicopters Downed, 160 Vehicles Destroyed in a Week.

HE patriotic forces con-tinued attacking the THE patriotic forces continued attacking the enemy in this sector with a remarkable sting. In the week ending September 17, many important engagements took place, Gaia Phong Press Agency reported.

Preissagency reported.

In a battle against a puppet para battalion 3km south of Tay Nish town on Sept. 1s. action 150 men including two U.S. advisers. The same day, west of the city 250 puppet Marines met with a tion was intercepted by the people's forces. The next day, on National Road No. 2z. Phom Penh Highway, an American battalion was violently intercepted the conary G.L's killed or wounded.

On Tay Nish D- Dax Tiege 1.

on Tay Ninh - Dau Tieng road, between Sept. 11 and 14, in many ambushes the P.L.A.F. inflicted 450 cas-ualties on the enemy, destroy-ed 35 vehicles and downed 5 planes and helicopters.

- At Thanh Dien, 4km south of Tay Ninh, on Sept. 13 and 14, two enemy bat-tallions had 500 men put out of action.

tant engagements in period was One of the most importhat engagement at the tool of the control of the c was the destruction C.P. and a U.S. mixed battal-ion composed of two infantry companies, one motorized infantry company, 2 artillery companies were wiped out. Over 400 G.I.'s were put out of action and 50 vehicles including 25 tanks and armoured cars, ten 105mm and 155mm cannons and four 106.7mm mortars, des-

Let us recall that in these localities on August 18 and 22 and Sept. 11, the P.L.A.F. wiped out 3 U.S. mixed bat-talion, killed, wounded or talion, killed, wounded or captured 1,600 GI's, destroyed captured 1,000 G1's, destroyed 200 military vehicles and over 40 big guns and mortars and downed 4 choppers. 4 choppers

Another brilliant

Another brilliant exploit was achieved at Ben Cui, 24 km last, southeast of Tay Ninh, near U.S. Dau Tieng base (where already on Sept. 11, the P.L.A.F. had overrun II, the P.L.A.F. had overrun an American camp after one hour's fighting): within 24 hours another camp and the U.S. Division 25 airfield in that rubber plantation was violently attacked. At village violently attacked. At village No 3 where was located an armoured car park, an infantry company was routed in a fifteen-minute battle on the night of Sept. 15: 120 G.l.'s were killed or wounded and 26 M.41 tanks and M.113 armoured cars and 6 106,7mm mortars, destroyed. Not far from there are recently mortars, destroyed. Not as mortars a successful attack was mounted the attack was mounted the following day at 2 a.m. against an airfield. The P.L.A.F. succeeded reaching the heart of the enemy artillery barrage. Over 400 G.I.'s were put out of action, ovehicles destroyed and a company of heavy mortars wiped out. As at village No 3 great quantities of arms and ammunities were seized.

From Sept. II to erom Sept. II to 17, according to information in hand, the enemy losses to-talled 2,600 killed, wounded or captured and 160 military vehicles and many dozen can-nons, destroyed and about twenty airplanes and choppers destroyed.

- Two U.S. Battalions and 6 Companies Wiped Out, 55 Tanks and Armoured Cars Destroyed and 8 Planes and Choppers Downed.

The General Commanding U.S. Division 1 Killed.

OC NINH urban centre, 80km northeast of Tay Ninh, was attacked by the P.L.A.F. on the night of a heavy artillery

pounding, the P.L.A.F. as-saulted the sub-sector C.P. and the camp of puppet Rangers. Early on Sept 11, they intercepted a rescue party of 3 puppet companies

supported by armoured cars, putting out of action 40 men and destroying 8 tanks.

print and distroying is not.

The following day, they ambushed a strong American column of 3 battalions and an armoured convoy. At heart of a big rubber plantation, they wiped out an enemy company and two platons and destroyed to ternoon, they lured into a trap a U.S. battalion hellifted of him to be the column of the colu in a two-hour battle: 7 armoured cars were destroyed and choppers downed. The helicopter of Gen. Keith L. Ware commanding the operation of Division "Red One" was grounded and the officer was killed together with his execut.

escort.

On Sept. 13, 9km northwest of Loc Ninh, another battalion of Brigade 3 of Divison "Red One" just landed, met with the same fate

(Continued page 7)



· Provincial capital Provincial road Viet Nam-Cambodia frontier

A National road

Second Attack on U.S. Base at Cza Phi

Editor's Note — On their second attack on the American support base at Tax Phi, hamched on August 22, 1968, at dawn, the P.L.A.F. put out of action an American combined battalion, wiping out 600 enemy troops, destroying 96 tanks and armoured cars and 6en 105-mm and 155-mm guns. The following story recounts the battle.

combined battation of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division cautiously into Tra Phi. G.I.s Division cautiously moved into Tra Phil G.L.s started digging manholes, gun pits, and putting up wells of sandhags and precast concrete shields round thelters for tanks and armoured cars. They had heard leavilu stories about the August 18 P.L.A.F. attack on American units stationed here before they came. Filled with anguish, they on American units stationed here before they came. Filled with anguish, they erected fence after fence of barbed wire entanglements around their artillery positions and tents.

To keep up their morale, their artillery fired vandom saloos sind neighbouring act as egular intervals. At night shell-lines were let off and parachute flares dropped from lenes, illuminating sky om dearth with million candle-power lights. But all this could not litterfee in the least power isgas. But all this could not interfere in the least with P.L.A.F. troops move-ments. Waws after wave they streamed towards the Amer-ican have ican base.

In a command dugout, the head of the P.L.A.F. unit was listening on a field telephone to reports by different groups and proceeding to a final check-up.

At 00.15 hour of August 22, an order was given through the field telephone by the commander of the front. P.L.A.P. shells sucopaed down on American tanks and tents and guns. Following the barrang guns. Following the torus at 11th infantrymen were full of praise for the artillerymen.

whose deadly strike was raiswhose deadly strike was raising columns of fire from enemy positions, from which rose a confused uproar made up of men's cries, tank engines revving up, and frantic gun-

From every side P.L.A.F. assault squads closed in on the Americans. Demolition assault squade closed in on the Americans. Demolition teams, clutching their B. 40 bazookas, penetrated into enemy tank pits. Every time their weapons flathed, a tank or an armoured car was set ablaze. American gun emplacements and resistance nects were destroyed one after another. G.F.x were moued down were destroyed one after an-other. G. T.s. were mowed down with bayonels: Then another wave of P. L. A. F. troops surged up. Jumping on the tanks, they dropped satchel charges into their hatches, killing the men inside and blowing up their vehicles.

The P.L.A.F. men consisted each other in destroying American infantry and armour. Thanh Lim, a scout, blew up within seconds a M.41 tank and a M.113 armoured personnel carrier. Phan Dam. sonnel carrier. Phan Dam, head of an assault group, led his team right into an American position where using anti-tenk bazoohas, petards and machinegums, they destroyed four M. 41 tanks, blew bunkers and killed dozens of American aggressors.

Even wounded men continued Even wounded men continued to fight. Dat, injured in the forehead, and Tieng, in the left arm, quickly dressed their wounds and rushed into a 105-mm gun emplacement. where with explosive charges they destroyed two enemy howitzers after gunning down their crews. Tien and Xuyen, who were receiving their baptism of fire, blasted three armoured cars and one troop tent apiece.

After forty minutes of com-bat, the P.L.A.F. troops had destroyed all enemy combat positions, gun emplacements, tank and armoured car pits. lane and armoured car pus-In four prongs, they charged the American command post, where all the American survivors had withdrawn.

The command post was a blockhouse built with precast concrete, on the left side of the base. It was surrounded with enormous tanks and tents fill-ed with troops. Through gun ed with troops. Through gun slits close to the surface of the ground, heavy machine guns and 20-mm cannons pour-ed out a steady stream of fire.

But the P.L.A.F. had devised adequate means to cope with it. Mortar creus and B.0.0 gunners put their was possible to the state of the But the P.L.A.F. had devis-

a flaming cage.

At 12:15, hours on August
22, the P.L.A.F. flag, black
with gunpouter, fluttered on
top of the American command
post at Tra Ph., where converging P.L.A.F. spearheads had
met amidst tumultuous 199.
Liberation lighters, standing
on mangled enemy tunks, under
ed their ganz and should
flames continued to rise from
the destroyed enemy positions.